

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 248376

62

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 A-01 OPR-01 NSCE-00 NSC-05 SS-15

SSO-00 USIA-06 PA-01 CCO-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

RSC-01 /047 R

DRAFTED BY EA/P:AHROSEN:EB

APPROVED BY EA/P:AHROSEN

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R 112214Z NOV 74

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INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, CH, KISSINGER, HENRY A.

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PRC

1. HERewith TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF SECRETARY'S TRIP TO PRC RELEASED AT 12 NOON EST, NOVEMBER 11, AND TEXT OF Q'S AND A'S PREPARED FOR SPOKESMAN FOR USE AT PRESS BRIEFING.

ANNOUNCEMENT: IT HAS BEEN AGREED UPON THROUGH CONSULTATIONS THAT THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF STATE AND ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS, DR. HENRY A. KISSINGER, WILL VISIT THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA FROM NOVEMBER 25 TO NOVEMBER 29, 1974.

Q'S AND A'S:

QUESTION: WHAT WERE THE DATES OF THE SECRETARY'S LAST
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PAGE 02 STATE 248376

VISIT TO CHINA?

A. NOVEMBER 10 TO 14, 1973.

Q. HOW MANY PREVIOUS VISITS HAS HE MADE?

A. BEGINNING WITH HIS FIRST TRIP IN JULY 1971, THE SECRETARY HAS MADE A TOTAL OF SIX PREVIOUS VISITS TO THE PRC.

Q. WHERE WILL THE SECRETARY TRAVEL FROM?

A. THE SECRETARY WILL RETURN FROM VLADIVOSTOK TO JAPAN, WHERE HE WILL PICK UP THE PLANE AND THOSE CORRESPONDENTS TRAVELLING FROM WASHINGTON WHO HAVE SIGNED UP FOR ONLY THE CHINA TRIP. THOSE WHO WILL BE TRAVELLING WITH THE PRESIDENT'S PARTY AND THEN MAKING THE CHINA TRIP WILL ALSO MAKE THE CHANGE IN JAPAN.

Q. WHY HAS HE CHOSEN THIS RATHER CROWDED TIME ON HIS SCHEDULE TO VISIT CHINA, WHEN HE HAS SAID HE WOULD GO THERE AT THE END OF THE YEAR OR BEGINNING OF 1975? ARE OUR RELATIONS DETERIORATING?

A. I BELIEVE THIS SCHEDULE FALLS WELL WITHIN THAT TIME FRAMEWORK, AND IS CONVENIENT TO BOTH GOVERNMENTS. AS WE HAVE SAID BEFORE, THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION CONTINUES TO MOVE ALONG SATISFACTORILY. IT HAS BEEN DR. KISSINGER'S STATED INTENTION FROM THE BEGINNING TO MAKE PERIODIC VISITS TO CHINA FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES, AND IT WILL BE A YEAR BETWEEN HIS LAST VISIT AND THE PRESENT ONE.

Q. WHAT DOES HE INTEND TO ACCOMPLISH? WILL THERE BE ANY NEW AGREEMENTS?

A. WE REGARD THESE HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSIONS AS USEFUL IN BROADENING THE RANGE OF MEANINGFUL CONTACTS BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS, AND INCREASING UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER'S POSITIONS ON A WIDE RANGE OF BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ISSUES. KISSINGER
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PAGE 03 STATE 248376

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE248376
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AHROSEN:EB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740325-0237
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741153/aaaabsrf.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <14 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PRC
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, CH, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: PEKING
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005